

## REPORT

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 7th April 1906.

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## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
<b>BENGALI.</b>					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Dharma-o-Karma" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	.....	
2	"Prachar" ...	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....	.....	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Sign Board" ...	Calcutta ...	560	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bangabhumi" ...	Calcutta ...	1,400	30th March 1906.	
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	9,000	31st ditto.	
3	"Basumati" ...	Ditto ...	13,000	Ditto.	
4	"Byavasayi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
5	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	20,000	30th March 1906.	
6	"Hindustan" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	.....	
7	"Islam" ...	Ditto ...	.....	2nd April 1906.	
8	"Mohammadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
9	"Mibir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	30th March 1906.	
10	"Nava Yug" ...	Ditto ...	300	.....	
11	"Nayavarta" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
12	"Pratijna" ...	Ditto ...	700	.....	
13	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	800	30th March 1906.	
14	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	3,500	29th ditto.	
15	"Soltan" ...	Ditto ...	500	30th ditto.	
16	"Somprakash" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
17	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika." ...	Ditto ...	2,000	29th March 1906.	
18	"Swadesh" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	2nd April 1906.	
19	"Yugantar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	1st ditto.	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	200	29th and 31st March, 2nd and 4th April 1906.	
2	"Samvad Purnachandredaya" ...	Ditto ...	400	29th, 30th and 31st March and 2nd to 4th April 1906.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	1,300	30th and 31st March, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th April 1906.	
4	"Sandhya" ...	Ditto ...	7,000	29th to 31st March and 2nd to 4th April 1906.	
<b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b>					
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Daily Hitavadi" ...	Calcutta ...	2,000	30th and 31st March and 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th April 1906.	
<b>HINDI.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	3,200	31st March 1906.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	2nd April 1906.	
3	"Hitavarta" ...	Ditto ...	4,000	1st ditto.	
<b>PERSIAN.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Roznama-i-Mukaddas-Hablul Mateen." ...	Calcutta ...	1,000	30th March 1906.	
<b>URIA.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Orissa Vani" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	22nd March 1906.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—continued.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
<b>BENGALI.</b>		<b>BURDWAN DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Banga Darpan" ...	Chinsura ...	.....	.....	
2	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	1,156	1st April 1906.	
3	"Birbhum Hitaishi" ...	Suri ...	400	2nd ditto.	
4	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Do. ...	1,000	31st March 1906.	
5	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	300 to 500	27th March and 3rd April 1906.	
6	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	1,000	.....	
7	"Education Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	2,000	30th March 1906.	
8	"Howrah Hitaishi" ...	Howrah ...	500	31st ditto.	
9	"Medini Bandhav" ...	Midnapore ...	300	21st and 28th ditto.	
10	"Niher" ...	Contai ...	400	3rd April 1906.	
11	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	600	14th and 21st March 1906.	
12	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	500	30th March 1906.	
13	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ...	300	31st ditto.	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Uluberia Darpan" ...	Uluberia ...	250	.....	
<b>BENGALI.</b>		<b>PRESIDENCY DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Sevika" ...	Diamond Harbour ...	.....	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Banga Ratna" ...	Ranaghat ...	.....	.....	
2	"Hitasadhak" ...	Alipore ...	.....	.....	
3	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	1,500	28th March 1906.	
4	"Khulna" ...	Khulna ...	200	.....	
5	"Khulnavasi" ...	Ditto ...	200	31st March 1906.	
6	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Saidabad ...	800	28th ditto.	
7	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Murshidabad ...	.....	3rd April 1906.	
8	"Nadia" ...	Krishnagar ...	250	31st March 1906.	
9	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampore ...	600	.....	
<b>URIYA.</b>		<b>ORISSA DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talcher ...	.....	24th March 1906.	
2	"Manorama" ...	Baripada ...	.....	.....	
3	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Sambalpur ...	.....	.....	
4	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	400	22nd March 1906.	
5	"Star of Utkal" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	.....	
6	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	400	.....	
7	"Utkaldipika" ...	Ditto ...	645	24th March 1906.	
8	"Utkal Darpan" ...	Sambalpur ...	.....	19th ditto.	
<b>HINDI.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Jagadis Samachar" ...	Puri ...	.....	.....	
<b>HINDI.</b>		<b>PATNA DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Lakshmi Upadesh Lahri" ...	Aurangabad, Gaya ...	.....	.....	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	29th March 1906.	
2	"Jain Gajet" ...	Arrah ...	444	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Siksha" ...	Bankipur ...	250	22nd February, 15th, 22nd and 29th March 1906.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—continued.

No.	Name of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	URDU. Weekly.	PATNA DIVISION— concluded.			
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	300	29th March 1906.	
	BENGALI. Weekly.	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.			
1	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	500	...	
2	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Ditto ...	200	2nd April 1906.	
	HINDI. Fortnightly.				
1	"Ghar Bandhu" ...	Ranchi ...	1,000	1st April 1906.	
	BENGALI. Weekly.	RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
1	"Hindu Banjika" ...	Boalia ...	230	28th March 1906.	
2	"Maldaha Samachar" ...	Malda ...	400	4th April 1906.	
3	"Pabna Hitaishi" ...	Pabna ...	300	28th March 1906.	
4	"Rangpur Dik Prakash" ...	Rangpur ...	7,480	29th ditto.	
5	"Rangpur Vartavaha" ...	Ditto ...	700	30th ditto.	
6	"Swadesh Hitaishi" ...	Ditto ...	1,152	.....	
	BENGALI. Fortnightly.	DACCA DIVISION.			
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	937	.....	
2	"Goalundo Surhid" ...	Pangsa ...	.....	.....	
3	"Santi" ...	Madaripur ...	650	.....	
	Weekly.				
1	"Bikas" ...	Barisal ...	500	.....	
2	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Do. ...	400	.....	
3	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	1,000	27th March 1906.	
4	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	670	1st April 1906.	
5	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Barisal ...	1,000	28th March 1906.	
6	"Swadesh Sampad" ...	Mymensingh ...	700	.....	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI. Weekly.				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	550	2nd April 1906.	
	BENGALI. Tri-monthly.	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
1	"Suhrid" ...	Noakhali ...	500	.....	
	Weekly.				
1	"Arun" ...	Agartala ...	.....	30th March 1906.	
2	"Hitavarta" ...	Muradnagar ...	200	.....	
3	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	1,100 to 1,200	29th March 1906.	
4	"Sansodhini" ...	Ditto ...	200 to 300	.....	
5	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	768	.....	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI. Weekly.				
1	"Pratinidhi" ...	Comilla ...	755	.....	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	BENGALI.	ASSAM.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet ...	500	21st and 23rd March 1906.	
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	.....	17th March 1906.	



## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 31st March says that the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, has subscribed to a copy of this paper for his office. In this connection the writer refers to the Tahal Ram affair and the recent Bow Bazar affray as illustrations of Mr. Halliday's worth and conduct as the keeper of the peace of the metropolis.

Mr. Halliday and the *Sandhya* newspaper.

*SANDHYA*,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

2. The same paper of the 2nd April speaks of the sensation which has been created at Midnapore by the dismissal of Babu Satyendra Nath Bose, the local Land Acquisition Head-clerk, and of the arrest under sections 124A and 505, Criminal Procedure Code, of a student of 15 years of age, named Khudiram Bose, for supposed connection with the distribution, on the occasion of the last *Mahamela* (grand fair) at that town, of a Bengali translation of certain seditious matter published sometime ago in the columns of the *Pioneer* newspaper.

"Sensation at Midnapore."

*SANDHYA*,  
April 2nd, 1906.

3. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 3rd April complains that thefts and dacoities are on the increase in almost all parts of the Midnapore district. The miscreants usually work in gangs and they commit serious outrages on the persons both of the male and female inmates of the house they visit. People are in such a state of alarm and anxiety that they cannot sleep soundly at night. Attempts are being made to enter into houses almost every night, but happily the inmates usually remain wide-awake and do their best to prevent them from making their entrance.

*NIHAR*,  
April 3rd, 1906.

The following list is then given of the men whose houses have been attempted to be entered into:—

- (1) & (2) The late Babu Murari Mohan Das and Babu Surendra Narain Das of village Sarda.
- (3) Babu Pitambar Das Patnaik of village Durmuth.
- (4) Babu Ramdhan Panda of village Betilia.
- (5) Babu Blikuram Maiti of village Chattaveri, on the night of the 26th March last.
- (6) Two houses in village Jasabisa on the 30th March last.
- (7) Babu Srimanta Giri of village Purushottampur (thana Contai) on the 16th March last.
- (8) Two or three other houses in the same neighbourhood as that in (7).
- (9) The late Baidyanath Das of village Kusbani, on the 6th March last.
- (10) Three or four other houses in the same neighbourhood as that in (9).
- (11) Upendra Nath Sau of village Dhababeria.
- (12) A number of houses in the villages of Chandibheti, Chalti, Dhababanya, Dholmari and Barh.
- (13) Nakri Jana of village Gholpukur (thana Handigram).

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

4. In connection with the question of appointing a separate District Judge for Khulna, the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 31st March, after noticing a rumour that the High Court has called for information if there is adequate work for such a Judge, goes on to suggest that, if there is not, a portion of the Narail subdivision may be transferred from the jurisdiction of Jessore to that of Khulna.

A separate District Judge for Khulna.

*KHULNAVASI*,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

5. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 31st March writes in a sarcastic vein that Anglicised Bengalis are dancing in joy at the appointment of natives as officiating Chief Justice, officiating Advocate-General and officiating Clerk of the Crown of the Calcutta High Court. But, since the occurrence of the Pennell case, the High Court has been gradually losing its prestige. Its partiality towards Europeans and *Feringhees* and its attitude towards the *swadeshi* move-

The recent officiating posts in the High Court.

*SANDHYA*,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.



ment have served to lower it in the estimation of the public. But the acting appointments will atone for all its sins and make the Anglicised native community grateful to the *Feringhees*.

HITAVARTA,  
April 1st, 1906.

6. Hearing of the appointment of Mr. Sinha, Bar-at-Law, as Advocate-General of the Calcutta High Court, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April says the people will congratulate Lord Minto on His Excellency's selection.

(d)—Education.

MEHENDI BANDHAV,  
Apr. 28th, 1906.

7. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 28th March expresses itself against a proposal which it understands has been made by the Chairman of the Midnapore Municipality to abolish the local Hardinge School, and which is now awaiting final disposal by the Commissioner of the Division, on the ground that the existence of the institution in question affords many poor students the advantage of a cheap education in the vernacular.

SRI SRI VISHNU-  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
RASAR PATRIKA,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

8. The *Sri Sri Vishnu-priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th March writes:—

The Calcutta Sanskrit College. It appears that for some years past the students of the Calcutta Sanskrit College have been unable to acquit themselves creditably in any of the University "degree" examinations. Since 1900 no student from this College has been able to pass the B.A. or M.A. Examination in the first class. In some years it has also happened that no under-graduate belonging to this institution has found a place among the list of "Honors-men" in Sanskrit in the B.A. test. In some years again, all the students of this College have proved unsuccessful in the M.A. Examination. Nor is this all. Even in those years when one or two students from this College find a place among the Honors-men in Sanskrit in the B.A., they usually occupy a position inferior in the list to that occupied by students from other Colleges. Even in the M.A. examination students of Colleges other than the Sanskrit College very often occupy the highest positions in the list of those successful in Sanskrit. More strange, still, students after passing with first class Honors in Sanskrit in the B.A. examination from other Colleges and often occupying the first place among the first class Honors-men and after continuing their studies for the M.A. Course in the Sanskrit College find that, either they cannot appear at the latter examination at all, or if they do appear that they pass out of it with very poor results in the third class perhaps. It is also said that the examiners sometimes have to pass one or two candidates with the help of "grace marks." Another noticeable point is that for sometime, even after the retirement of the last but one of the predecessors of the present Principal of the College, the results in the M.A. continued more brilliant than they have been lately. Whence this deterioration of the Sanskrit College?

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

9. With reference to the proposed establishment of Training Colleges for female teachers at Bankipore and Calcutta, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th March, after pointing out that in Bengal 190 out of 200 females are

The proposed Training College for female teachers.

wholly illiterate, goes on to suggest that much better results than those expected from the proposed Training Colleges at Bankipore and Calcutta would be obtained by the opening of free schools for girls in the villages, the grant of scholarships to the pupils and the appointment of *pandits* on Rs. 15 or 20 a month to teach in them. No respectable Hindu or Musalman would object to entrusting the education of his girls of 8 or 10 to the care of a *pandi*. It is official niggardliness alone which is responsible for the present lamentable backward condition of female education in Bengal, and judging from the fact that subscriptions are being called for, in aid of the present project also, it does not seem that niggardliness is a thing of the past. Government's sincerity in this matter is being questioned, and people are already saying that these Colleges are to be founded only to provide employment for a number of European ladies as teachers.

BANGAVASI,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

10. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March ridicules the scheme for establishing Colleges for Bengali women, and the idea of spreading secular education among them.

Female education in Bengal.



11. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes as follows:—

"The vulture mourning the cow's death."

If it is possible for vultures to cry over the carcasses of dead cows, then it is possible for Anglo-Indians to shed tears over our sorrows. Our relation with Anglo-Indians is the same as that of cows with vultures. And Sir Alexander Pedler is an astute vulture. His tender heart has melted with sorrow for us. He has found out that the cause of education in Bengal greatly suffers through want of co-operation between district authorities and educational officers. This has moved his heart and he has undertaken to bind the two parties in bonds of love. With this object, he has issued a circular which has such a finished and apparently innocent and well-meaning exterior that a simple minded person cannot but praise him for it. But he who can read between the lines will see that it is an instrument devised by Sir Alexander for the destruction of the Education Department. Henceforth district authorities will be able to rule educational institutions just as they please and punish their students to promote administrative purposes.

SAMAY,  
Mar. 30th 1906.

12. Referring to a recent educational circular directing all Inspectors.

An educational circular.

Head-masters, teachers, etc., of schools in Bengal to work under the advice of and in co-operation with

district authorities, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March asks if Sir Alexander Pedler can guarantee that, in consequence of this circular, district authorities will not really turn out despotic rulers of the educational institutions of the country. The people of the Province have no high opinion of the good faith of the district authorities as advisers in public matters. Moreover, those whose time is divided between trying criminals and doing police work are very likely to turn out very bad advisers in educational matters. The connection of district authorities with primary education in the country is fraught with more mischief than good. Sir Alexander Pedler's circular, which has surely an intimate connection with the *swadeshi* movement, will serve to enlighten the minds of the people as to the position in which they stand in their own mother-country.

BANGAVASI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

13. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March says that the

An English Professor of Sanskrit for the Presidency College.

educational retrogression of the country, the abolition of competitive examinations, the subordination of the Education Department to executive officials,

the Official Secrets Act and, last of all, the partition of Bengal, all prove the superiority of the English to Indians and pamper the vanity and self-conceit of the former. But the white Lords are not yet satisfied. They must show that they are superior to the natives even in the art of teaching their sacred language, Sanskrit, and for this purpose Rs. 6,000 has been sanctioned for a new English Professor of Sanskrit in the Presidency College, Calcutta. Splendid idea, indeed!

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

The weaving school at Serampore.

14. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March expresses pleasure at the proposed establishment by Government of a weaving school at Serampore.

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

15. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 4th April doubts the honesty of the

The projected weaving school at Serampore.

Government's intention in establishing a weaving school at Serampore. The writer is of opinion that the establishment of Government weaving

SANDHYA,  
April 4th, 1906.

schools in the country will have the effect of causing almost all the cotton grown in it to be purchased for their use, and thus throwing all independent weavers out of employment. If these weavers try to carry on their business with the aid of foreign cotton, Government will very probably establish weaving firms of its own in order to prevent them from purchasing any large quantity of such cotton; Government will thus make a monopoly of the weaving industry of the country, and the consequence will be the destruction of the *swadeshi* movement. The weavers of the country generally, and those of Serampore in particular, should be warned of this. The apparent generosity of the Government in establishing a weaving school is also fraught with the danger of misleading many people into slackening their efforts in the *swadeshi* cause.

16. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March says that Government

The educational grant of 5 lakhs.

must be held to have been guilty of race-partiality in having distributed its educational grant of 5 lakhs

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.



in the proportion of half and half between the needs of Europeans and Indians respectively, if one has in view the difference numerically between the two races.

HITAVARTA,  
April 1st, 1906.

17. In spite of the fact that the number of white men in the country is insignificant when compared with the Indians, the sum allotted in the budget estimate for the education of the former is equal to that provided for the education of the latter. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April therefore asks if this has been deliberately done by Lord Minto.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 2nd, 1906.

Question papers in Sanskrit in the late University Examinations.

18. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April makes the following complaints in connection with the question papers in Sanskrit in the late University Examinations:—

(1) In the Entrance Examination, in former years, passages for translation into English were selected from the *Hitopadesa* only. This year passages were selected from the *Ramayan* also, and they were exceptionally difficult ones too.

(2) In another question in the same examination an English passage was set to be translated into English.

(3) In the F. A. the questions, though not bad on the whole, were too many, to answer all of which fully was difficult within the time allowed.

(4) In the B. A., in the morning paper, the questions were so many that they could not be done justice to in five hours, not to speak of the three which were all that were actually allowed.

(5) Questions were put to answer which a knowledge of *darsan* and *alankar* is required; neither of which subjects however is included in the course of study.

BURDWAN  
SANJIVANI,  
Apr 11 3rd, 1906.

The last B. A. Examination.

19. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 3rd April says that in the first Sanskrit paper in the last B. A. Examination of the Calcutta University there was a question on versification. The writer takes objection to this, as B. A. students are not required to study the rules of versification in Sanskrit.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 4th, 1906.

The last F. A. Examination of the Calcutta University.

20. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th April points out the following irregularities in the question papers in the last F. A. Examination of the Calcutta University:—  
Question 6 in the Physics paper, question 5 in the Logic paper, and the last part of question 9 in the Mathematics paper were set from outside the prescribed Syllabus. Question 1 in the Mathematics paper contains a mistake:  $\frac{1}{R}$  in this question should be  $\frac{1}{2R}$ .

(\*)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 27th, 1906.

Cholera in Burdwan.

21. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 27th March speaks of the prevalence of cholera in a severely epidemic form in the villages of Barbeloon, Nasigram, Arra, Tubgram, Daspur, Beldanga, Erachay, Bijipur, etc., in the thana of Sahebganj. In some of these villages the number of deaths up to date amount to 200.

AL PUNCH,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

A Municipal complaint.

22. *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 29th March draws attention to the unsatisfactory condition of roads and thoroughfares for want of proper repairs, as well as insufficiency of the street light and water-supply throughout the town of Patna, to the great inconvenience of the rate-payers from whom the Municipal rates are punctually realized.

ISLAM,  
April 2nd, 1906.

The Calcutta Municipality and a mosque.

23. The *Islam* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April publishes a letter complaining of the conduct of the Calcutta Municipality in having constructed a latrine right opposite the entrance door of a mosque in Dutt's Lane, Jaun Bazar. It is alleged that the Municipality has purposely created this source of annoyance to those who own the mosque, in order that the mosque might be sold to them, as the entire land in its neighbourhood has already been. It is claimed that the mosque has no *mutwalis*, and if, as has been stated by some persons in authority over the mosque, the mosque has been already sold to the Municipality, then the man who has posed as the *malik* of the *musjid* is a cheat.



24. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 2nd April writes as follows in English under the heading "strike but hear":—

DACCA GAZETTE,  
April 2nd 1906.

"Strike but hear."

Prosecution seems to be the order of the day in the New Province. Within this short period we have had enough of these prosecutions in the several districts, and on analysis it will be found that, in a majority of cases, the furtherance of the *swadeshi* cause lies at the root of them, directly or indirectly. And in these days of the Elliotian policy of "no conviction, no promotion," so ardently kept in view by the favour-seeking members of the Executive Service, it is absurd and foolish to hope that the parties concerned will come out unscathed.

Dacca, the capital of East Bengal, now going to be made the Metropolis of the New Province, does not seem likely to be outdone in acts of this kind. The local authorities have undertaken, at whose instance we need not say, as it is an open secret with everybody here, the prosecution of the citizens with a vigour unknown in its annals. All classes of persons, from the highest to the lowest, are being caught in the drag-net of Act V. To say nothing of the richest millionaire, not even some of the highest Municipal officials have been able to escape the operation of this all-engrossing Act. And, of course, nobody ought to grudge it, as the law is no respecter of persons. The delinquents are being fined sums varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50, and, thank God, the trying Magistrates, with all their commendable zeal in the matter, have not, up to date, thought it worth their while to send any of them to Jail.

So far so good. We have not a word to say against the authorities in sanctioning these prosecutions, inasmuch as they are intended to make this new metropolis, to quote the expression of the highest authority in the Province, "an ideal town." Under these circumstances, any act, right or wrong, done or proposed to be done towards the realisation of that object is not only justifiable but excusable too, if it be not so opposed to the general principles of law and equity as to give a rude shock to the feelings of the people concerned. But we beg to remind the authorities of the fact that, if they are at all bent upon improving the sanitation of the town, they must, at the same time, attend to the other requisites for the purpose. These prosecutions alone will not bring about the needful.

The streets and lanes, the privies and drains, betray a deplorably abnormal state of things which any town with a Municipality of its own ought to be ashamed of. Some of the lanes and by-lanes are so many repositories of filth and dirt. With regard to the drains and privies, the less said the better. The principal streets and roads of the town fare not a whit better. Every pedestrian knows with what difficulty and inconvenience he has to plod his weary way from the Iron Suspension Bridge to Chauk Bazar and from the Sudder Ghât to the Old Lines, the two main roads worth the name, running through the heart of the town. During the rains it costs him not a little trouble to wade through them on account of the creation, here and there, of pits and cesspools of muddy water. In the dry season the stench emanating from some of the roadside drains and the storms of dust overtaking him at every step simply stifle his breath. Circumstanced as they are, our civic fathers cannot manage to get the drains properly flushed and the night-soil regularly removed; they can ill afford to get the public thoroughfares adequately watered. Pray, then, why these prosecutions, why this worry and trouble to the peace-loving townspeople when there are other urgent things to engage the first attention of the authorities.

But it is absolutely useless to remonstrate with the Municipal authorities, knowing, as we do, fully well that they are pitifully helpless in the matter. It would be positively cruel on our part to take them to task for actions for which they are not, properly speaking, accountable to God and man. They cannot be expected to make bricks without hay. They really know not what they do, they are not in a position to say "no," they have only to dance to the tune of a master juggler and musician behind the scene. But, for all that, on the principle, now finding so much favour in official circles, that somebody must account for the day's work, we cannot but, though reluctantly, make them liable for what they have, however unwittingly, done at their master's



bidding. In our humble opinion, they are morally—the legal aspect of the question is reserved for the members of the legal profession—bound to remove the positive nuisances referred to above. They would do well to remember that they also may be proceeded against on a charge of committing and perpetuating nuisance and brought to justice. So we would sincerely ask them always to bear in mind that, while themselves living in glass-houses, they should not throw stones at others. Let them first do their own legitimate duties satisfactorily, and then, but not till then, they may naturally expect others to do the same with regard to their own, or, with a show of reason and justification, bring pressure to bear upon them in case of default. When will better counsels prevail with them! Will Sir Bampfylde Fuller condescend to enquire into the matter and satisfy himself as to the propriety or otherwise of the measures adopted by the local authorities?

**NIHAR,**  
April 3rd, 1906.

Deaths from cholera in  
Ramnagar.

25. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 3rd April writes that four to five thousand deaths from cholera have taken place in Ramnagar.

(g).—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

**PALLIVASI,**  
Mar. 14th, 1906.

26. With reference to the projected Hooghly-Katwa Railway, the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 14th March suggests that the most suitable site for the Kalna Station would be a position a little to the north of the place which has now been marked for it. The choice of a site to the east of Jendhara road, or in the neighbourhood of the Missionaries' house, would be unsuitable in every way.

The paper then goes on to speak of the unduly slow pace at which the necessary earthwork of the line is being pushed on, and to point out that the insufficiency of the rates which has been offered to the contractors by Mr. Gabbie is the cause of this delay.

**JYOTI,**  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

27. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 29th March points out that large imports of rice have been coming into Chittagong from Rangoon for some time past, and that the Assam-Bengal Railway have instituted a special goods train in order to facilitate despatch of them to Assam; but that, in spite of this new facility, numerous bags still lie in the godowns, awaiting despatch, to the great loss of the traders concerned. The paper concludes by commending this matter to the notice of the traffic authorities of the railway.

**HITAVADI,**  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

28. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes that the grievances of passengers on the Central section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway are now worse under Government management than they were under private Company management. The opening of the Baraset-Basirhat Light Railway has been followed by an increase in passenger traffic, but no additional accommodation has been provided in the trains to cope with it. Again on Saturdays there should be an increase in the number of trains usually running; but on this line it is the other way. The system of week-end return tickets leads to a crush amongst the passengers every Saturday, but the railway authorities evidently do not think it their duty to guard against this.

**BANGAVASI,**  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

29. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March prays for the opening of a Railway station at the place where the Hooghly-Katwa Railway line cuts the Bagnapara road. A petition containing this prayer and nearly 2,000 signatures was some time ago submitted to the Railway authorities, and it is rumoured that the latter intend to grant the prayer. It is the intention of some people to have the station established at the neighbouring village Dhatrigram. But that would be a serious mistake, because Bagnapara is a much more important place than Dhatrigram from the point of view of traffic.

**NADIA,**  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

30. The *Nadia* [Krishnagar] of the 31st March suggests, for the consideration of the proper authorities, the desirability of opening a new station at the Railway gate at village Banbania, between the stations of

A suggested new station in the  
Eastern Bengal State Railway.



Madanpur and Kanchrapara, on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. It is pointed out that a *mêla* (known as *Kuliar Debananda Pather mêla*) is held in the neighbourhood of the suggested station.

31. The *Daiy Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st April writes that, though of

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 1st, 1906.

A Railway complaint.

Railway have ceased to permit passengers to take their baggages in their own carriages, no good arrangement has yet been made for their safe conveyance to their destinations. At Sealdah the ticket collectors on duty insist on the passengers putting their boxes, trunks, etc., in the guards van, but the guards refuse acceptance of custody thereof. Lately a case occurred, in which a Hindu wife had to travel without the escort of her husband, who missed the train in attempting to induce the guard to take in his luggage. And trustworthy information shows that this case is not a solitary one.

32. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th April notices the following complaints concerning the East Indian Railway:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 4th, 1906.

Railway complaints.

1. On Sundays passengers from Howrah to stations above Baidyabati have often to suffer great inconvenience, because after the 5-43 o'clock train there is no train available for them for nearly three hours. This inconvenience is felt most by those passengers who have to attend offices in Calcutta on Sundays.

2. Since the last Durga Puja vacation, inter-class passengers from Howrah to Serampur, Chandernagore and Bandel are not allowed to travel by the 8-30 P.M. train. If this is due to rush of passengers, some arrangement ought to be made for the accommodation of the inter-class passengers for the above-mentioned stations.

3. The 7-35 o'clock train shunts at Seoraphuli for allowing the 8-30 o'clock train to pass. Cannot this shunting be made at Bandel?

33. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi* [Murshidabad] of the 3rd April dwells on the necessity on the part of Government of dredging the mouth of the Bhagirathi at an early date.

Re-excavation of the mouth of the Bhagirathi.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
April 3rd, 1906.

(h)—General.

34. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 27th March writes that it is

CHARU MIHIR,  
Mar. 27th, 1906.

The Partition question.

surprised to notice the absence amongst the most eminent statesmen of England of that foresight which is necessary to the Government of a foreign country. The men who show an extraordinarily keen insight into the causes of the rise and fall of foreign States, the men who charm by always treating of untainted and ideal policies in their writings and speeches,—these men in relation to India exhibit vision as commonplace in their character as those entertained by the most ordinary man. This is a remark which applies equally to the men of the Liberal and Conservative parties. At different stages of the partition question, lack of political wisdom was manifested in different forms. Lord Curzon, Mr. Brodrick and Mr. Morley, all have decided this grave question with their eyes on one aspect of the question alone. Whether willingly or unwillingly, none of them considered the other aspect.

They did not think of the sequel of the policy which Government has followed in regard to the agitation on this question. It is a number of humane minded Englishmen who have pointed out the risk that a people living under a foreign Government, if they find lawful agitation always unsuccessful, may take to unlawful courses.

The partition has been a lesson to the people of Bengal as to the real nature of the governing race. There will be no change in their lot with the accession to office of the Liberal party. Never for the welfare of their subjects will Englishmen depart from their accepted policy to the detriment of their national interests.

The partition will not succeed in creating a division among the people of Bengal, so far as their feelings for one another are concerned. Wider conceptions of nationality are being gradually generated as a consequence of this measure. They are no longer contented to look upon themselves as Bengalis or Biharis only. Their idea now is that they are all Indians.



SRI SRI VISHNU-  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

35. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th March offers the following criticism on the Bengal Financial Statement lately presented to the Legislative Council:—

Large grants are made every year to the Calcutta Medical College, to the General Hospital and the like, but unfortunately there is no provision made for the treatment of the sick and the poor in the villages. Money spent without regard to want and necessity cannot be regarded as well-spent. Calcutta has a rich population with adequate facilities available for medical relief. There are in the very lanes of the city medical men of eminence, the like of whom cannot be had in entire districts in the mufassal. It is inexplicable therefore why Government is not prepared to spend even a pice on medical relief or sanitation in the interior of the country. The fact is that the villages have no European population, and that is why the officials forget that they contain any population at all. There is nobody who has any regard for the village poor. And yet it is they who constitute the very backbone of the community. If they break down, the collapse of the whole fabric of the State will follow.

SANDHYA.  
Mar. 30th, 1906

36. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes as follows under the heading "The Viceroy's frowns":—

Lord Minto's recent speech. Lord Minto sent forth angry frowns at the last meeting of his Legislative Council. Probably he thought that, he being the Viceroy, his frowns would make the people swoon with fear. But the day is gone when such a thing could happen. He said that he had great sympathy with the *swadeshi* agitation, and that efforts to produce cheap goods would gain his favour, but that people who attempted to give up, or induce others to give up, the use of cheap but good foreign goods, would incur his displeasure. Yes, and the Viceroy's displeasure would surely sever our heads from our bodies.

The Viceroy has threatened us. But why does he not himself become frightened? Is there no cause for fear in the fact that his utterances have filled seventy millions of human beings with disgust? It is quite true that no one can inflict the least physical injury on him? But will not the anger and mental suffering of seventy millions of men penetrate his heart? The *Feringhees* are, indeed, very thick-skinned. Nothing can easily reach their heart. And they are equally shameless. Every page of history says that the Government of England forced the English people to give up the use of cheap Indian goods of good quality. Even at the present moment a controversy is going on in England whether a tariff duty should be imposed on cheap foreign goods for the advantage of the British Empire. To impose a tariff duty on such goods means their exclusion from a country by making them dear. How has America become great? Has she not risen so high, because she banished all English goods by means of tariff duties? The prosperity of Japan, too, has been brought about by the same means. China alone has not yet succeeded in doing the same, because whenever she imposes tariff duties on foreign goods, the *Feringhee* crows and vultures cry out "free trade," "free trade," and cause bloodshed in the name of that mock freedom. As for ourselves we are worse than the Chinese. We have no one to protect us. The *Feringhee* Government and the *Feringhee* merchant are both one and the same thing. The Government cannot cause the least inconvenience to the *Feringhee* merchant, even if India's good requires it. For instance, an import duty of four annas per rupee on cotton goods would make India the Queen of the world in ten years. But the *Feringhee* Government would not consent to impose such a duty even for its life, though it makes one's blood dry up in one's veins to think of the import duties which were imposed in England against Indian goods with a view to ruin India's trade.

Under the circumstances, the only means open to us for saving our industries is to boycott foreign goods. Give up as poison the use of cheap and showy foreign goods. It is true that no substantial work will be done so long as the country cannot produce cheap goods of a good quality. But it will not be possible for us to breathe freely or give a scope to our energies so long as we do not partially free ourselves from the bondage of *Feringhee* merchants who are now sitting tight with their feet on our throats. One thing more. The delusion caused by foreign things must be removed. It is the external



glitter of foreign things which has been the undoing of the country. *Swadeshi* will have no chance, unless you can give up your partiality for outward show and glitter. The *Feringhee* gains his end by deluding you by empty show. There is no salvation for you, unless you remove the delusion by pointing out the faults of foreign things and abjuring their use.

The *Feringhees* have now turned sanctimonious. At the Legislative Council, Mr. Apar, the Chief of the European merchants, sang to the same tune as Lord Minto. An adage in Hindustani says: 'The cat is going on a pilgrimage to Mecca, after having eaten seven rats?' It is just the same with the *Feringhees*, who, after having finished all their beating, have now come to preach. But we care a straw for their pretences of sanctity. What we gather from Lord Minto's speech is—"let the *Feringhees* go on amassing wealth as they have all along done, and let the people of the country pick up a few *swadeshi* pices and half-pices and sing the *Feringhee's* praise for their good fortune."

We have come thoroughly to know Lord Minto and his party. He has held out the threat that the boycott has incurred his serious displeasure. We, on our part, must say that we care a brass farthing for the opinions of those—be they *Lats* or *Nawabs* who are opposed to boycott. Let us now see whose frowns carry greater weight—the Viceroy's or those of the devotees of the mother.

37. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March accuses the Government of India of having shown a remarkable indifference to the wants of Bengal in its budget estimate for the year 1906-1907. For agricultural

The Bengal and the Imperial budget.

purposes, Madras gets rupees 28 lakhs, the United Provinces 25 lakhs, the Punjab 15 lakhs, but Bengal not even full 4 lakhs. Two and-a-half lakhs have been anctioned for the improvement of technical arts, but Bengal gets only 35 thousands out of this sum. The authorities have been equally ungenerous towards Bengal in the matter of education. But their grant for the improvement of the Provincial police is the largest, save that for Madras. The Government of India thinks that it is more necessary to lay the *lathi* on the back of the Bengali, than to make provision for feeding him.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

38. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March takes exception to the fact that the Bengal budget for the current year makes no provision for water-supply in the country.

The Bengal budget and water-supply.

BANGAVASI,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

39. Referring to the Imperial budget estimate for 1906-07, the same paper says that for some years past the budgets of the Government of India have shown large surpluses.

The Imperial budget.

BANGAVASI.

According to some people, generally Europeans, these overflowing budgets indicate growing prosperity of the country. But, as a matter of fact, they only point to the impoverishment of the raiyats caused by exacting from them the last pie they can pay. Famine has become chronic throughout the vast Indian dominion, and thousands of people die every year of starvation in the land. Those prosperity budgets were some time ago proved by the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale to be the result of a highly artificial system of exchange. Thereupon Government tried to introduce gold coins in the Indian market and began to bring out its financial statements in pounds and shillings. But, although the attempt at inducing the Indians to carry on their transactions in gold failed on account of their poverty, the authorities continued to show their budgets in pounds and shillings. Those who have eyes can easily see this trick on the part of the authorities.

40. The same paper publishes a cartoon under the heading "the Morley Flute," in which an Englishman, evidently

A cartoon.

Mr. Morley, is represented as playing on a flute in the fashion of the god Srikrishna of the Hindus and a woman dressed like an Indian lady asking him with the movements of her hands to sing no more. The following is the import of the letter press:—

BANGAVASI,

"The flute sings:—I love the Indians who have an ancient civilisation. They are not cheats, they are not hypocrites; they are honest and candid believers. I have a mind to relieve their burden of heavy taxes."



"The woman sings:—Sing no more. We have more than once heard your songs before: but they only served to raise false hopes in our minds."

BNARAT MITRA  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

41. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st March is sorry to hear that Sir Bampfylde Fuller has sent fresh police force to Mymensingh, instead of helping the poor who are dying for want of food in many villages of Dacca

and Chittagong.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 1st, 1906.

42. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st April writes that although all, from the Viceroy down to the white skinned Deputy Magistrate in charge of a subdivision, declare themselves *swadeshi*, they fail not to show their

Officials and the *swadeshi* movement.

true colours when it comes to actual practice. All make lip-professions about it being the imperative duty of everybody to use country-made goods, but they all interfere forcibly wherever the sale of goods of foreign make is found to be on the decline. Everybody knows that the incidents about the special constables at Rangpur, the Gurkha police at Barisal, the punitive police at Banaripara, etc., were all the outcome of the *swadeshi* agitation. But the strangest thing is that he is loudest in his professions of being *swadeshi* who is most strenuous in his efforts to suppress the *swadeshi* agitation. Shamelessness like this is not to be met with in any other country.

Lord Minto, in the course of his speech on the budget, claimed to be a supporter of the *swadeshi* movement; but he made the reservation that he had no sympathy with any obstruction to the sale of foreign-made goods where home-made goods cannot be turned out as cheaply. It is a strange mystery this—being in favour of the *swadeshi*, but not supporting the giving up of the use of things of foreign-make. The high-placed officials of the land now-a-days consider the people so very foolish as to be incapable of seeing through their real motives. Let Lord Minto point out a single country in the whole world which has overcome successfully foreign competition in trade without the assistance of the State. One need not refer to the manner in which, for the improvement of the English weaving industry, Englishmen at one time of their history destroyed the same industry in India by boycotting her cotton and silk cloths. It is descendants of the same Englishmen who now declare that they have no objection to the use of country-made goods, but that the boycott of foreign-made goods shall not be permitted. Is it not well, when offering advice to others, to look to one's own past?

In truth, in these days, the very utterance of the word *swadeshi* from the lips of an official makes us suspicious of him. No one needs to be told at this day what a real well-wisher to the *swadeshi* cause Sir Bampfylde Fuller is. It makes the warm blood flow in the veins even of a dead man to think of the improper means he had recourse to for the suppression of the *swadeshi* agitation. It is this very man who claims to be a sincere friend of the *swadeshi* cause. He has learnt from experience that the use of brute force has not succeeded in stamping out the *swadeshi* agitation, but has rather given it a forward impetus; and now therefore he tries the effect of a move in a new direction. His Honour has lately directed that the text-books in the schools in his Province should in future be printed in country-made ink and on country-made paper.

It is true that officials cannot take part in those meetings which are got up to protest against the partition, since such meetings are political; but can either Lord Minto or Sir Bampfylde Fuller or Sir A. Fraser explain why students are prohibited from attending meetings, the object of which is strictly to inculcate the use of country-made goods among the people to the exclusion of foreign-made articles? Sir Bampfylde Fuller and Sir A. Fraser pose as friends of the *swadeshi* movement; but have they, on any single occasion, been able to speak to the people of Bengal generally that they should to the best of their ability use things of indigenous manufacture?

The truth is that now that the officials have once betrayed themselves, they will no longer succeed in deluding the people with sweet professions. There is nobody now who does not understand the true significance of the love of the *swadeshi* professed by the officials. To see the same Lieutenant-Governor who once sought the use of brute force to stamp out the *swadeshi* agitation, because he thought undertaking legislation for the purpose would be



too dilatory a course, now ordering the use of country-made ink and paper in books authorised by Government for study in schools, naturally raises suspicions in one's mind. If the officials were really sincere friends of the extended use of home-made things, they would have imposed Customs duties on foreign goods. Until this is done, mere lip-professions in favour of the *swadeshi* will deceive nobody. The eyes of the people have now been opened to their real condition and to the real objects of their rulers. If the indigenous industries are to be raised up from their present decaying condition, foreign goods must be boycotted, regardless of the frowns or smiles of the officials.

43. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 2nd April writes as follows in English:—

Messrs. Scroope and Inglis.

Both Mr. Scroope and Mr. Inglis were men of sound calibre and never missed an opportunity of doing a good turn to the Indian people. It is still fresh in our memory what a terrible disaster—what a serious breach of the peace—did Mr. Scroope avert with his strict adherence to law and justice and promptitude of action on that memorable day in the annals of the Partition of Bengal, viz., the 16th of October last. If the matter under reference were allowed to run its usual course, serious consequences might have ensued which we shudder even to think of. That worse days have not befallen this part of the country since then, is due to the attitude of sympathy with the aims and aspirations of the children of the soil displayed all along by Mr. Inglis. We offer our heart felt thanks to both these gentlemen. It is officials with such catholic views and liberal minds alone that can bridge over the gulf of difference that unhappily separates the rulers from the ruled and secure the permanency of British rule in India which no amount of brutal force will be able to do. When, if ever, will the ruling classes realize the truth of this remark and act accordingly?

DACCA GAZETTE,  
April 2nd, 1906.

The separation of the Judicial and Executive functions.

44. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes that Government ought no longer to put off the much needed reform of the separation of the judicial and executive functions on the plea of want of funds. There is not much fear of any large expense being incurred, if the separation is at first effected experimentally in specially selected areas. Will not Lord Minto take up this question? His Lordship, since his accession to office, has appointed Mr. Justice Ghose to be acting Chief Justice of Bengal, and Mr. S. P. Sinha to be officiating Advocate-General for Bengal. These appointments are no doubt matters for congratulation to the people of the country. Perhaps His Excellency may also see his way to appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta to be Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for a short period. But to the people of the country generally the appointment of one or two of their number to the high offices of State cannot mean alleviation of the intense heartfelt agony they are now smarting under. That alleviation can only come, if His Excellency finds some redress for the oppressions unheard of before which some officials have been guilty of towards the students in connexion with the *swadesi* agitation. Sir Bampfylde Fuller, finding that the weapons which he thought infallible for suppressing the *swadesi* agitation (such as the employment of the Gurkha police), have proved a failure, now seeks to win the confidence of the public by posing as an out and out *swadeshi*. Lord Minto again, instead of remedying the oppression of the students, attempts to please the public by making a Bengali Chief Justice of Bengal. But the people of Bengal will not feel at peace again until the police oppressions on the students cease.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
April 2nd, 1906.

45. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 3rd April complains that the employes of the Post-office at Contai are overworked, and that in consequence letters from it are not delivered to the addressees with reasonable promptitude. For instance, the mail from Calcutta arrives at 11-12 A.M., but the letters, etc., arriving by it reach the *Nihar* office close by not earlier than 5 P.M.

A postal complaint.

46. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 4th April welcomes the rumour that Sir Bampfylde Fuller will shortly go home on leave. What with students and what with the *swadeshi*, His Honour has had a very bad time of it. Since his appointment as the Lieutenant-Governor of the New

NIHAR,  
April 3rd, 1906.

The rumour about Sir B. Fuller's going on leave.

SANDHYA,  
April 4th, 1906.



Province, he has been working like a soldier in the heat of battle. And it is good both for himself and for the country that he should now enjoy rest for some time.

### III.—LEGISLATION.

SRI SRI VISHNU-  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

47. Referring to the official reply to the question about the issue of gun-licenses put at a recent sitting of the Bengal Council, the *Sri Sri Visnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th March writes that the logic of the official reply is strange indeed. The danger from mad dogs and mad jackals is daily on the increase. Malaria has decimated the population of many localities, which have now become the abode of jackals and other wild animals. Tigers snatch away cattle and goats under the very nose of the cultivators, so to speak. Then again, are dacoities on the decrease either?

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

48. Referring to the official reply to the question regarding the issue of gun-licenses at the sitting of the Bengal Council on the 24th March last, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes that every sensible man will understand what this reply is worth. It is not necessary to point out that the principal reason for Government restricting the issue of gun-licenses is distrust of its subjects. If the official contention that increase of population makes the issue of licenses for fire-arms unnecessary is correct, then it might equally be used to discuss lightly the havoc caused by malaria in Nadia and Jessore. Is not the list compiled by Government annually showing deaths caused by wild-beasts amazing? In truth, the official reply is one which will make everybody who hears it hang down his head for shame.

BIHAR BANDHU,  
Mar. 29th, 1906.

49. Referring to the replies of Lord Kitchener to the questions put by Mr. Gokhale in the Imperial Legislative Council the other day regarding the prospects of the members of Lord Curzon's Cadet Corps, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 29th March remarks:—"Replies like these mean that an officer defeated in argument meets you with a slap on your face."

BHARAT MITRA,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

50. Commenting upon Lord Minto's criticisms of Mr. Gokhale's suggestions regarding the Military expenditure of India, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st March says that the Government is neither willing to minimize the fear of the Russian invasion of India, nor to postpone the proposed military reorganization. Lord Kitchener's remarks are still more funny. His Excellency says that the question of a reduction in military expenditure would be taken up when the Indian army has been completely reorganized on an efficient footing. The truth is that Lord Kitchener is after all a soldier and the Viceroy is also a soldier, how can then there be any question of a reduction of military expenditure?

BHARAT MITRA.

51. In noticing the Government's reply to the questions of Mr. Gokhale last week about the *Weekly Chronicle*, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st March says that Sir B. Fuller is now at full liberty to do whatever he pleases, as the Supreme Government will support him in everything that he may do. The lives of the subject-people are now in his hands. He may let them off or squeeze them to death if he likes.

HITAVARTA  
April 1st, 1906.

52. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April is astonished at the Government's reply to the question of Mr. Gokhale regarding the *Weekly Chronicle*, and thanks its editor for not retracting the statement made by it in one of its issues when called upon to do so by Sir. B. Fuller.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

53. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March has an article on the "Viceroy's Legislative Council." After referring to the custom—(1) of the members of the Council remaining standing till the Viceroy takes his seat, (2) of inkstands of two different kinds being supplied to the official and non-official members respectively, and (3) of the members remaining seated while reading out their written speeches, the article proceeds:—

In the Viceroy's Legislative Council, an attempt is made to condense into a single day's time work which in the British House of Commons it takes



six months to do. Serious questions, which for their proper consideration should take up a week, are discussed in the course of half-an-hour. All Indian political questions of importance are discussed in a single day. This is not at all as it should be. Each important topic ought to have at least a day or two given to its discussion. The financial statement alone ought to have a month's time allotted to it for consideration and debate. In fact, the resemblance is striking between debates in this Council which does the work of months in a day, and performances on the stage where the events of a lifetime are gone through in the course of three or four hours.

These things seem to suggest that the Council is a mere show kept up to delude the people. It is a matter of regret that Government forgets that oriental people, though very fond of show, are quite able to recognise what is good and what is bad for them.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

54. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 28th March writes that this year reports point to the prevalence of famine all over Backerganj. The *aman* crop practically is nowhere. Wails of distress are coming from the agriculturists. There are many middle-class men in the villages who now use rice only in one meal in the day, the other being made to consist of boiled vegetables only. Thieves have been known to enter houses and leave them after having eaten up any cooked food available, but without taking away the cooking utensils. Cholera has lately broken out in Barisal town.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Mar. 28th, 1906.

The paper concludes by pleading for the re-excavation of the dried up and dammed up *khals* in the district.

55. A correspondent writes to the *Pabna Hitaishi* [Pabna] of the 28th March from Siyan-il, Chatmahar, in Pabna, to say that, speaking from personal experience on the spot, he does not see anybody who has one or two maunds of paddy laid in at his house. Everybody has to buy the article to meet his necessities. The price is half-a-maund (*kanchi*) per rupee. Nor is rice alone at famine-price. Almost the same is the case with oil, pulses, etc. A woman lately was seen carrying a child 15 or 20 days old only, who said that she had had no food for the two previous days. There are many Musalman widows here who used to eke out a precarious livelihood by buying paddy and making rice out of it, but who now find their occupation gone owing to the high price of paddy. This is the condition, not of this village alone, but of the entire neighbourhood.

PABNA HITASHINI,  
Mar. 28th, 1906.

56. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 31st March writes that there are alarming signs of famine visible on all sides. It is true that the price of rice has gone down a little, but the cultivators are absolutely without a penny wherewith to buy the article. Lately Babu Ambika Charan Sen, senior daroga of the Sadar thana at Khulna, in the course of a visit to Chhagladaha, found the local inhabitants in the grip of a real scarcity of food, sometimes living on boiled *motor kolai*, and sometimes going without any meal altogether. It is to be hoped that the District Officer will cause prompt enquiries to be made into the condition of these villagers.

KHULNAVASI,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

57. We have received information, says the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March, that great distress prevails in the Kadisal village under the Hasara Post-office, in the Dacca district. People are spending days without food. The price of rice has risen very high. But still Mr. Lyon would say that there is no distress in the country.

BANGAVASI,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

58. Referring to Government's reply to the Hon'ble Mr. Syed Sarfuddin's interpellation in the Bengal Legislative Council on the subject of failure of crops and consequent dearness of food-grains in Bihar, the same paper says that officially there will be no distress in the country so long as people do not actually die of starvation.

BANGAVASI,



## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1906.

59. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March publishes a poem exhorting the Government not to oppress its subjects, and points to the downfall of the Roman

A poem.

Empire, of the Moghul Empire and the domination of other powerful nations as indicative of the fate that awaits all oppressive Governments, however powerful they may be.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

60. Continuing the article on the present condition of the country, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st March says that the fourth cause of the present discontent in India

The present disquiet in India.

is the fear of the Government reducing the prestige and powers of the Indian High Courts. They say Government intends either to make itself altogether free by removing the control of the High Court, or at any rate to relax it to some extent. Some people say that, if the Government had the power to do so, they would have reduced these High Courts to mere District Courts making their Judges mere puppets in their hands. Now-a-days law is dealt with very differently in the Courts of Justice. The local High Courts are the only protection against the whimsical and mean conduct of the District Judges. So long as the Judicial and the Executive functions are not separated, the wheels of justice will not move on well.

HITAVARTA,  
April 1st, 1906.

61. Commenting upon Lord Minto's reply to the congratulatory note written to him by the Prince of Wales on the eve of his departure from India, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta]

The Royal visit to India.

of the 1st April says that a few empty words are the only things which the Indians have received at the hands of His Royal Highness. They will hardly gain anything by being remembered by His Royal Highness. If His Royal Highness's visit could be signalized by minimizing the official highhandedness in India, the visit would have been of some good to the people. Mere empty appreciation of loyalty cannot satisfy the people.

## URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

62. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March states that the sky was clear, that the sun grew warmer day by day, and that the cold was felt at night in the last week

The weather in Cuttack.

in the Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA.

63. The same paper states that plenty of rain, accompanied by hailstones, fell in the Balasore district last week, and that this has removed the want of drinking-water for the time being.

The weather in Balasore and Puri.

The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that the weather was alternately fair and cloudy in the last week in Puri.

JTKALDIPIKA.

64. The Rampela correspondent of the same paper states that heavy showers of rain, accompanied by hailstones, fell in that place last week, and that they were injurious

The weather in Rampela.

to many standing crops.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Mar. 19th, 1906.

65. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 19th March states that heavy showers of rain fell in the Sambalpur district in the last week, but that agricultural operations are

The weather in Sambalpur.

in no way benefited by them.

ORISSAVASI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

66. The *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March states that terrible showers of rain, accompanied by wind, hailstones and thunder, fell in Calcutta last week, that a

The weather in Calcutta.

house was rent asunder by lightning-stroke in Patuatola Lane, and that a person, who had taken shelter under a tree in the maidan, was also killed by lightning.

The same paper states that the cold has completely disappeared from Calcutta, and that the sun's rays are growing hotter day by day.

ORISSAVASI.

67. The Balasore correspondent of the same paper states that spring breezes are blowing everywhere in that district.

The weather in Balasore.

ORISSAVASI.

68. The Sambalpur correspondent of the same paper states that heavy showers of rain destroyed many standing crops in the Sambalpur district.

Loss of crop in Sambalpur.



69. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 24th March states that heavy and continued showers of rain fell in Talcher in the last week, and that this rainfall is regarded by the people as inauspicious and injurious.  
The weather in Talchar.
70. The same paper states that heavy showers of rain, accompanied by hailstones, fell in the Angul district last week.  
The weather in Angul.
71. The Balasore correspondent of the *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March states that vegetables are becoming very dear in Balasore day by day.  
Dearnness of vegetables in Balasore.
72. The Sambalpur correspondent of the same paper states that rice and pulse have become very dear in Sambalpur.  
High price of rice in Sambalpur.
73. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 22nd March states that rice and paddy have become dear in the Balasore district.  
High price of rice in Balasore.
74. The Jhankar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March states that people have become very uneasy at finding that the prices of rice and paddy are rising day after day.  
High price of rice in Cuttack.
75. The Rampela correspondent of the same paper states that unseasonable showers of rain have almost destroyed the mango crops, which appeared very promising at the beginning.  
The mango in Rampela.
76. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 19th March states that, though cholera has abated in Sambalpur, its place has been occupied by fever, cold and other diseases.  
Public health in Sambalpur.
77. The *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March advises the Government to take preventive measures and enforce quarantine rules on ships arriving in the ports of Orissa from countries declared to be infected and plague-stricken.  
Enforcement of quarantine rules in Orissa ports.
78. The same paper states that plague is growing more and more severe in Calcutta, that the daily seizures are about 25 against a daily mortality of about 23, and that cholera also adds to the insecurity of life in the metropolis.  
Plague and cholera in Calcutta.
79. The same paper states that small-pox has not yet abated in Calcutta.  
Small-pox in Calcutta.
80. The Balasore correspondent of the same paper states that children are being vaccinated in that town as a protection against small-pox.  
Small-pox in Balasore.
81. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March regrets to note that 18 persons died of cholera in the Cuttack town in the last week, and that the unexpected death of Babu Jagadananda Patnaik, Special Sub-Registrar of Cuttack, and of Babu Purna Chandra Gupta, an Assistant Master, Ravenshaw Collegiate School, due to that disease, has caused wide-spread sorrow in that town.  
Cholera and fever in Cuttack.
- The same paper states that fever prevails in the Cuttack town.
82. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that a special doctor has been deputed to the Jajpur subdivision of the Cuttack district to attend on cholera patients; that as the tracts affected by the disease are far removed from one another, one additional doctor is quite unable to visit all the patients; and that consequently more help is necessary.  
More additional doctors required in the Jajpur subdivision.
83. The Kanika correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March writes to say that rinderpest is creating havoc in the killa of Kanika, that many cultivators who lost all their bullocks through the fell disease and who had no money to buy new bullocks except by borrowing at heavy rates of interest were saved by the generosity of the proprietor of Kanika, who advanced money to them at a nominal interest on condition of the loans being made repayable by three instalments, that the aforesaid proprietor has

GARJATBASINI,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

GARJATBASINI.

ORISSAVASI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

ORISSAVASI.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

UTKALDIPIKA.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Mar. 19th, 1906.

ORISSAVASI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

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ORISSAVASI.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

UTKALDIPIKA.  
UTKALDIPIKA.

UTKALDIPIKA.



promised to issue similar loans in the future, and that the proprietor of *Kanika* has not only relieved his tenants by his kind act, but has secured their goodwill and gratitude.

ORISSA VANI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

84. The *Orissabasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March states that the residents of Tuticorin have entirely abstained from the use of foreign-made articles, and that the articles

The *swadeshi*.

intended for their daily use are all country-made ones. The writer observes that this example should be followed in every part of India.

The same paper states that very few in Barisal applied for licenses to sell British wines this year, that out of 80 shops dealing with such wines in Barisal only five obtained license this year, and that these five, it is said, are ready to give up their licenses.

ORISSA VANI.

85. The same paper states that the residents of Dacca are up and doing in establishing a national school there, for which

The national education movement.

purpose a Committee has been formed. This Committee, in the meantime, applied to the

Executive Committee of the Calcutta National Fund for help, and obtained Rs. 2,500. The writer calls this true patriotism.

GARJATBASINI,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

86. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 24th March states that the Raja of Talcher is taking a lively interest in the founda-

The foundation of a workshop with a museum in Talcher.

tion of a workshop in his own *garh* on the Brahmi river, to which an artistic and agricultural museum

will also be attached, and that the undertaking will take effect from the 1st April next.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

87. Referring to the criminal case in Dacca, in which the agents of the proprietor of a fair had driven out a dealer in

The Court's judgment in the Liverpool salt case in Dacca disapproved.

Liverpool salt from it, and in which those agents were punished with fine, the *Utkaldipika*

[Cuttack] of the 24th March disapproves of the judgment of the Court on the ground that if the dealer in salt persisted in selling that salt in defiance of the orders of the proprietor who had a general control over the kinds of things sold in the fair, there was no reason why the proprietor or his agents should have been punished for driving away the defiant trader.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Mar. 19th, 1906.

88. Referring to the proposed policy of the Mayurbhanj State of reclaim-

Policy of encouraging foreigners in Mayurbhanj condemned.

ing waste and forest lands by leasing them out indiscriminately to foreigners, the *Utkaldarpan*

[Sambalpur] of the 19th March observes that such policy, if adopted, will be most detrimental to the interests of the Uriyas in Mayurbhanj, for the children of the soil would be swamped thereby and they would be nowhere in the State to shape or influence its policy.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

89. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March approves of the attempt

A proposed Town Hall in Puri.

of the residents of Puri to erect a Town Hall there, and states that they convened a meeting in

the premises of the Puri Zilla School under the presidency of Pandit Madho Lal of Benares who promised to contribute his mite towards the success of the undertaking.

UTKALDIPIKA.

90. Referring to the Commission appointed to examine the working

Proposes the repeal of the Labour and Emigration Act.

of the provisions of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act and to their expected visit to Cattack, the

same paper observes that the said Act is not only unnecessary but injurious and should therefore be entirely repealed, because labourers will voluntarily go to those places where they will find good remuneration.

UTKALDIPIKA.

91. The Puri correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th

The Dole jatra in Puri.

March states that owing to scarcity of food in various parts of India, the number of pilgrims who

proceeded to Puri during the last Dole-jatra was not great, as only 25,000, most of whom were up-country people, are reported to have been present there, and that many lodging-houses in Puri were found unoccupied.

UTKALDIPIKA.

92. Sheikh Abdul Hakim, a hide merchant, writes to the same paper

A complaint against the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

to complain that one of two bundles of hides, despatched by him on the 5th May, 1905, by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from the Kapilas Road



Station to the Armenian Ghat Station, Calcutta, and weighing four maunds and three seers, was lost at the Salimar Station. that he made several petitions to the Railway authorities on the subject, but has as yet received no satisfactory reply, that he has incurred a loss of Rs. 500 by this gross negligence on the part of the Railway authorities, which has reduced him to penury. The writer brings the matter to the notice of the Government of India and hopes that his complaint will be heard.

93. Availing itself of the opportunity furnished by the visit of a member of the Salary Commission to Sambalpur to enquire into the salary system prevailing there, the *Utkal-darpan* [Sambalpur] of the 19th March ventilates the grievances of the officials of Sambalpur who are said to be a class of overworked and ill-paid officers, and hopes that Sambalpur will not be deprived of the advantages which its incorporation with Bengal may secure for it, as it will not be benefited by the revision of the salary system in force in the Central Provinces.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Mar. 19th, 1906.

94. The Bhadrak correspondent of the *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 22nd March states that a large number of Muhammadans were congregated in a *musjid* in Bhadrak at about 10 P.M., with the object of assaulting the Hindus who might pass by the road near the *masjid* with music, and that the Subdivisional Officer of Bhadrak who had been informed of this movement and who had proceeded himself to the spot with a Police force was injured by brick-bats and similar other missiles that were thrown at him and his men with such force that many were injured thereby. This has caused great confusion and terror among the people whose fears have been removed by the arrest of about 22 ringleaders upon many of whom sentences of fine and imprisonment have been passed. The Muhammadans, however, are in great distress as the Judge and the Commissioner of the Division refused to hear their appeals.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

95. The same paper and the *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March give accounts of the speech of the Prince of Wales at Karachee and appreciate the sympathy of His Royal Highness for the distressed and famine-stricken in India. They further gather from the speech that His Royal Highness will, when in England, use his influence with the authorities that be to give a more liberal and sympathetic tone to the system of administration in India. They conclude their remarks with a sincere and loyal desire for the well-being and prosperity of the Prince and Princess whom they wish God-speed back to home.

ORISSAVASI  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 21st March also speaks of the Prince and Princess in the same strain.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 21st, 1906.

96. The *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March and the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th March speak approvingly of a new monthly magazine named *Swadesa-Lakshmi* devoted to agriculture, arts and commerce and issued from Berhampur in Ganjam.

ORISSAVASI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

97. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 24th March states that a rumour is afloat in the Garjat States to the effect that an interminable thread was found to pass along village Kengula in district Angul to a distance of about 8 miles from that village. The appearance of this strange thread has caused a superstitious fear that troubles and distress are in store for the people of the Orissa Garjats.

GARJATBASINI,  
Mar. 24th, 1906.

98. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 22nd March and the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 24th March state that preparations are going on in Balasore for the reception of the members of the Utkal Union Conference who are expected to congregate there on the 13th of the next month. It is said that Mr. M. S. Das, the life and soul of the movement, will be prevented by ill-health to attend the meeting, and that the Raja of Bamra will be invited to preside over its deliberations. The latter paper suggests that the fourth meeting of the Conference should be held at Baripada in Mayurbhanj.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.



ORISSAVASI,  
Mar. 22nd, 1906.

99. Mr. C. M. Patnaik of Athgarh contributes a paper to the *Orissavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd March pointing out the discovery of a fibre-producing plant that grows in abundance in the mountains of Orissa, Singhbhum, Ganjam and Sambalpur. It is said that the fibre drawn from the plant is in no way inferior to the jute fibre. On the other hand, it excels in softness and durability. The writer calculates that three lakh maunds of fibre can be drawn from the plants in those localities at a comparatively small cost. The writer suggests that the Government or some private capitalist may carry on the industry with profit, and the writer is always ready to help the undertaking with his experience and expert knowledge. He is prepared to send samples of the fibre to any capitalist who is inclined to take a favourable view of his proposition.

#### ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSAN,  
Mar 21st, 1906.

100. Referring to the draft rules published in the *Eastern Bengal and Assam Gazette* dated the 3rd February 1906, for revision of the local rate in the Sylhet district, the *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 21st March says that the proposed changes in the rules are fraught with injustice. The existing rules on the subject were published in the official Gazette of the 4th November last under notification No. 613C., and contained among others the following:—

"2. If the share for which the separate account has been opened is a share of an estate held in commonalty, then the rate assessed on the separate account shall be in the same proportion as the land revenue. If the share consists of lands held in severalty, then the rate assessed on the separate account shall be in the same proportion as the land."

It is proposed to alter this rule and substitute the following in its place:—

"No. 744C.

The area of land held in separate account shall be separately calculated, and each parcel of land so held shall be separately valued."

Under the Assam Local Rate Regulation plots of land measuring less than 400 acres or paying a land revenue of less than Rs. 100 are assessed at the rate of annas 2 per acre on an average. But in the case of bigger plots the assessment is based on a consideration of the respective area of cultivated and uncultivated land in them. Consequently these bigger plots have, on an average, to pay less per acre than the smaller ones, and the existing rule extends this advantage to the case of shares of estates held in commonalty, for which separate accounts have been opened. But, if the proposed alteration in the rules takes place, this advantage will cease to exist, because in that case these shares, the areas of which will in most cases be less than 400 acres, will be assessed at the rate of 2 annas per acre. Again, as a large number of big mahals have each many separate accounts in itself, the areas which will remain after excluding the lands under separate accounts from the whole will, in many cases, be less than 400 acres, and will consequently be assessed at the higher rate. It would not, says the writer, redound to the glory of the just, civilised and Christian Government of the country to practice such extortion on its poor subjects. Objections against the proposed change should reach the office of the Secretary to the Government within the 3rd April following. But most of those who are most vitally concerned in the matter know nothing of the proposal, as the educated villagers never see official Gazettes. Landowners ought to have been separately informed of the matter by the Government.

PARIDARSAN.

101. With reference to the question of the management of the Murari Chand Collegiate School and of the Giris School at Sylhet (noticed in paragraph 96 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 24th March), the same paper publishes what it describes as two most pleasing rumours:—

(1) That a local zamindar of culture named Nobin Babu is negotiating for the taking over of the Collegiate School under his management.

(2) That Sir B. Fuller has ordered the Local Board concerned to take over the complete management of the Giris School. It is pointed out that, if both these rumours prove correct, the very suggestions which were offered in



the previous issue of the paper for the respective future management of these two institutions will have been accepted in practice.

The paper concludes by making a general complaint that the resolution which Sir B. Fuller published in the official Gazette of the 28th January 1904, fixing the pay of teachers of primary and middle schools in Assam, still remains to be given effect to in practice in many cases, and that the Local Boards and the officers of the Education Department are responsible for this state of things.

102. The same paper writes that the night before a *harisankirtan* (chanting to the accompaniment of music and in chorus the name of the god Hari) was in progress in the students' mess adjoining the house of Babu Ram Gobinda Deb, Mukhtar, at Topkhana, in the town of Sylhet, when at about midnight a Musalman constable came from the District Superintendent of Police to prohibit its further continuance. The inhabitants of Sylhet have never yet joined in any agitation. It is difficult to understand therefore why discontent is being created by interference with the religious observance of a God-fearing people. It is said that the District Superintendent of Police in question has issued general instructions to the constables subordinate to him to stop in this fashion all *sankirtan* at night time.

PARIDARSAK,  
Mar. 31st, 1906.

103. The same paper refers to a statement that Sir Bampfylde Fuller has ordered the appointment of a veterinary doctor for each of the principal subdivisions, but that it has been found that a sufficient number of qualified veterinary doctors are not available. With regard to this latter point, it suggests that the scholarship of ten rupees which has been offered by Government for study at the Belgachia College is not enough to attract students in numbers, and should be supplemented by stipends of Rs. 15 each from Local Board Funds, the total amount of the scholarship amounting to Rs. 25 per mensem.

PARIDARSAK.

104. The same paper also speaks of the prevalence, in severe form, of cattle-plague in South Sylhet, a house-holder losing on the average 80 per cent. of his cattle in each case.

PARIDARSAK.

105. A correspondent writes to the same paper that the Post-master at Shamsernagar is not always found at his post of duty, is abusive towards those of the public with whom he comes in official contact, and is a man who by his indifference to his duties often makes a man come twice to him for work which might easily have been done at one visit.

PARIDARSAK.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 7th April 1906.



1941-1942

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REPORT (PART II)  
ON  
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL  
FOR THE  
Week ending Saturday, 7th April 1906.

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## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

374. There is no doubt, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, that in the new province a persistent crusade is being carried on against schoolboys and *pro-swadeshi* school-masters, in order to kill the present movement. The old province also is not free from the "boy-hunting" game, and the latest instance of this comes from Midnapore, where a boy of 15 years was arrested on the suspicion that he had distributed pamphlets entitled "Are these our rulers?" This pamphlet has not only been distributed far and wide by its authors, but its contents have been published by every newspaper, the *Pioneer* not excepted. No harm whatever was done to the Empire. On the contrary, the pamphlet only caused amusement. Why, then, did the Midnapore authorities take such a serious view of the matter and employ 'a number of policemen to arrest this tiny enemy of the mighty British Government in a most sensational manner,' and having captured him, refuse to release him on bail? Can the history of any country in the world boast of an incident like this, or a crusade against veritable school-children? Another point that arises is why students are distributing objectionable pamphlets, knowing as they do that the irresistible officials of the country are constantly at their heels? Clearly because the feeling against the partition is *not* subsiding.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
3rd April 1906.

375. The *Bengalee* refrains from commenting on the Midnapore sedition case as it is *sub judice*, but is constrained to observe that the spectacle of a lad of 15 being prosecuted on a charge of sedition is ridiculous, and affords conclusive proof that the entire administration has been seized with *swadeshi-phobia* of the most malignant type. Moreover, was section 124A intended to deal with lads of 15 years of age?

BENGALIAN,  
3rd April 1906.

376. The *Indian Mirror* writes that Midnapore is at present in the 'throes of the wildest commotion and excitement' over the arrest of a 'little boy,' who is alleged to have been circulating a seditious leaflet. The lad, it is said, was arrested at dead of night and marched off to the police-station. Bail was only granted when the prisoner's vakil addressed a personal appeal to the District Judge, asking him to consider the tender age of the boy.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
4th April 1906.

377. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* takes from the *Paridarshak* of Sylhet the following case of alleged police *sulum*. On the night of the 27th March last, some students were singing *kirtans* in their hostel, and the Superintendent of Police deputed a Muhammadan constable to put a stop to it. The constable was told in reply that the *kirtan* would be over in a few minutes, that is, after the offering ceremony was completed. Thereupon the Superintendent of Police sent two more constables, who saw that the order of their chief was carried out without delay. As the *kirtan* had no connection with *Bande Mataram* or *swadeshi*, it is inexplicable why the "hammering" policy was put into execution in this case.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
4th April 1906.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

378. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that Mr. Justice Chunder Madhab Ghose's appointment as Officiating Chief Justice of Bengal has caused considerable commotion among the European Judges, who entered into many plots to deprive Justice Ghose of the office. Had they succeeded in doing so, the result would have been very unpleasant. Race-feeling would have again evoked the worst passions of the two communities, and the matter would have created deep sensation both here and in England. Lord Minto, however, has not allowed himself to be influenced, and his decision is tactful and eminently just.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
2nd April 1906.

379. The *Indian Empire* writes that the Government of the new province has not yet tired of committing vagaries, as only recently two students of the Bindubasini School, Tangail, were treated as habitual criminals and bound down to keep the peace.

INDIAN EMPIRE,  
3rd April 1906.



Their so-called offence was that they attempted to persuade a purchaser, who turned out to be a constable in plain clothes, not to buy a piece of *bilati* cloth. Such treatment of children is intolerable.

## (c)—Jails.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
3rd April 1906.

380. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Pabna correspondent draws attention to a rule in the Jail Code which renders a prisoner liable to punishment if he visits the jail latrine at night.

If such a rule exists it should be abolished. The writer also draws attention to the fact that the feelings of the Hindu and Muhammadan prisoners in the local jail are not sufficiently respected in the matter of food supply.

## (d)—Education.

POWER AND  
GUARDIAN,  
1st April 1906.

381. *Power and Guardian* is disgusted at the methods employed by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to stifle the *swadeshi* spirit. Its latest effort in this

direction has taken the form of an application to the Syndicate for the disaffiliation of the Serajganj School. The journal trusts that the Syndicate will deal with the matter quite impartially, and not allow itself to be influenced by political considerations.

POWER AND  
GUARDIAN,  
1st April 1906.

382. *Power and Guardian* writes that the proposal made to appoint a European Professor of Sanskrit to the Presidency College is bound to take the entire Indian community by surprise. The journal questions the sanity of an arrangement by which a *European* will be required to teach *Sanskrit* to Indian students, and declares that it would not be surprised after this if Europeans were appointed to teach Bengali to the Bengalis.

BENGALIAN,  
8th April 1906.

383. The *Bengalee* vetoes the proposal to appoint European professors of Sanskrit in Government colleges. It is urged in support of the proposal, says the journal, that

Indian scholars brought up in the ancient system 'which consists more of memorising than of understanding,' are unable to deal with the methods of modern research. This is pure assumption, as the country has produced Sanskrit scholars who have distinguished themselves in the field of research. It is through the efforts of Indian scholars that Western methods are being assimilated with the system of Sanskrit teaching adopted in India, and a revolutionary change, which public opinion condemns, is therefore unnecessary either in the interests of research or Sanskrit learning. Moreover, the experiment of employing European professors has not been successful in the past and should not, therefore, be repeated. Apart from this, Hindu students prefer to learn their sacred language from their own countrymen, and their wishes, though based on sentiment, must be respected if Sanskrit learning is to advance and not decline.

BENGALIAN,  
1st April 1906.

384. The *Bengalee* characterises the Pedler Circular as a 'curious production,' inasmuch as it is not so much an educational as a political circular having a distinct

political end in view—the placing of Educational officers and institutions under Executive control. The circular commences in the usual strain, namely, "that unless all branches of the Government service work zealously and harmoniously together towards a common end, the result will be found to be unsatisfactory." This was also the strain of the now famous "Carlyle Circular," the real object of which was to subordinate the Judicial to the Executive.

The object of the Government in placing Educational affairs under Executive control is easily explained. The authorities have come to realise that the student world has been imbued with a national spirit—a spirit which seriously threatens the existing form of government. To allow this spirit to grow unchecked would be fatal. Educational officers cannot be depended on to check it. Hence the present circular. It now remains to be seen whether the 'self-protecting elements of society' will not provide an unsurmountable barrier between 'despotism and its objects.'



385. The pass marks in English for the Entrance Examination, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, have already been raised to 35, but at the last meeting of the Senate, the Government party made an attempt to raise them still higher, namely, to 40. If this motion had not been rejected by the narrow margin of two votes, 'it would have meant the massacre of at least 2,000 innocents.' Can there be any greater proof that the authorities are determined to close the door of higher education against the people? Never was there greater necessity for a National Council of Education than at present.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
2nd April 1906.

386. In concluding its articles on this subject, the *Indian Mirror* writes that the system of recruitment for the Educational Service requires a thorough overhauling. In Europe, it is only scholars of conspicuous ability who can aspire to occupy a chair; whereas in India, raw graduates from Oxford and Cambridge, whose only qualification is that they are Europeans, are appointed to vacant chairs to the exclusion of qualified Indians. Improvement, therefore, can only be effected by duly recognising the merits of Indians, whose prospects are *nil* under the existing system.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
3rd April 1906.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

387. Referring to the recent municipal elections which created no interest among the rate-payers of Calcutta, the *Indian Nation* writes that it is not enough to say that the Municipality has become unpopular and that there is a desire to boycott the Corporation, or that the Commissioners have not their old power and therefore few care to be Commissioners. In short, the present apathy cannot be attributed to the new Act, for if the office of Commissioner has lost in some things it has gained in other respects, notably in dignity, and Indian gentlemen have never hesitated to accept Municipal Commissionerships whenever they have been nominated. The reasons for the apathetic attitude of the rate-payers is to be sought elsewhere. One principal reason seems to be that as only one Commissioner is to be elected for each ward, an intending candidate has to run great risks in seeking to oust the elected Commissioner especially if he is a man of influence. Another reason probably is that election contests are becoming more and more troublesome every day.

INDIAN NATION,  
26th March 1906.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

388. The *Bengalee* draws the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor to the fact that the Gorai river is silting up at its mouth and that the sanitation, water-supply, and river-borne trade of the districts of Nadia, Faridpur, and Jessore are being affected in consequence. It is imperative that the Gorai should be open throughout the year, and with a view to effecting this, the mouth of the stream should be dredged annually directly after the inundation. It might thus be possible to remove the silt deposits, deepen the channel, and so ensure its being kept open throughout the year. The journal commends this suggestion to the consideration of Government.

BENGALKEE,  
4th April 1906.

(h)—General.

389. The *Weekly Chronicle* writes that the Budget is characterised by a peculiarity which cannot fail to strike even the most superficial observer. The journal refers to the unfair treatment that has been accorded to Bengal in the matter of the relief to be afforded to the agricultural tax-payer. Whereas 28 lakhs go to Madras, 25 to the United Provinces, and 15 to the Punjab, only 4 lakhs go to Bengal. It is obviously desirable that public money, to which Bengal contributes its full share, should be equitably divided. This injustice has been nowhere remedied, for while Bombay receives Rs. 1,67,000 for technical education, Bengal receives only Rs. 35,000. It is, however, clearly the opinion of the Supreme Government that Bengal needs more police, for the grant under this head exceeds that made to any other province, except Madras. 'Bengal asks for bread and receives a lathi.'

WEEKLY CHRONICLE  
28th March 1906.



BENGAL, 1st April 1906.

390. In the course of the Budget debate, writes the *Bengalee*, the Maharaja of Darbhanga urged that the Judicial and Executive functions should be separated. Hitherto the chief objection to this reform was one prompted by prestige, but apparently it has since been replaced by that of expense. The journal considers that in these days of vast surpluses, this objection should not have been urged, and that the Government should inaugurate the reform in selected areas. If successful, the reform should be adopted. The *Bengalee* appeals to Lord Minto to take up the question and to give effect to what is practically the unanimous demand of the people.

BENGAL, 1st April 1906.

391. The *Bengalee* writes that at the last meeting of the Bengal Council, the Hon'ble Member for Dacca drew attention to the considerable reduction in the licenses for fire-

arms. The Government, unable to deny that the reduction was striking, and apparently unwilling to confess that it was part of a recent policy, contented itself with saying that the matter was under consideration. The Hon'ble Mr. Richardson however, was sublimely ridiculous when he contended that an increase in the population implied an increase of security from the ravages of wild animals. Does the new Secretary imagine that wild animals are not to be reckoned with until they have decimated entire villages? It would have been equally plausible for the Hon'ble Mr. Richardson to argue that as wild animals were decreasing, it was no longer necessary to grant licenses for their destruction. The old proverb about honesty being the best policy does not appear to be the guiding principle of the Government of this country.

INDIAN EMPIRE, 2nd April 1906.

392. The *Indian Empire* considers that the real question in regard to the case of the *Weekly Chronicle* is whether the Editor published a story he believed to be true or whether

he wilfully published a false story. The facts are that the woman complained to the Municipal Chairman that a Gurkha had attempted to rape her; that a Babu who lived near the place of occurrence heard her cries and asked her what had happened, and that the inquiries made by the Municipal Overseer confirmed the woman's story. The only conclusion that is justified, therefore, is that the outrage actually took place. But the Government has judiciously preferred to believe the statement of the sweeper woman and her husband, as produced by the police, to the evidence of disinterested persons.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, 4th April 1906.

393. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the position of the new province is at present even worse than that of a non-regulation province, as will appear from the following facts. It will be remembered that the

Maharaja of Mymensingh successfully filed an ejectment suit against a Musalman tenant and that the latter petitioned the Lieutenant-Governor, with the result that the Maharaja was put on his defence. The inevitable result of this impolitic action is that the Muhammadans, confident of official support, are holding public meetings and denouncing their Hindu landlords as oppressive rack-renters. Is Sir B. Fuller aware how, owing to similar indiscretions on the part of Sir George Campbell, the district of Pabna was reduced to a state of revolt? But Sir B. Fuller's dislike of the Maharaja of Mymensingh has carried him to still greater lengths, and unless the Government of India comes to the latter's rescue, he is likely to be ousted from a piece of land on the alleged ground that it is to be utilised for a "public purpose." This land adjoins the Maharaja's magnificent garden-house, and the Lieutenant-Governor has ordered the Magistrate to acquire it "with the least delay possible," on the ground that the Maharaja has commenced a building thereon, which is likely "to shut the Court-houses off from the public road." The Maharaja has explained that it was never in contemplation to construct a "building" on the site in question, but that the construction referred to is a "conservatory garden of flower-plants only, which, instead of obstructing the view of the Court-houses from the public road, will considerably add to the beauty of the same." No Magistrate, no Commissioner, no Lieutenant-Governor has ever complained of any obstruction of view, but Sir B. Fuller goes to Mymensingh for the first time and discovers that the land in question is a great public nuisance. In this way the second biggest zamindar in the whole of Bengal is being subjected to treatment more befitting a 'coolie.'



VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

394. The *Behar Herald* endeavours to show that the official contention that the wealth of India is increasing has no foundation in fact. It is said that since India's foreign trade is rapidly increasing, she must necessarily be richer than she was a few years ago. It is true that India's so-called foreign trade is increasing, but the question arises whether she is making any profit. It is wrong to conclude from her increasing export trade that she is, since these exports are, to a very large extent, compulsory. The real fact is that India can afford no exports whatever, and the drain to England can have no other effect than that the people are compelled to live on one meal a day, sending the other meal across the seas 'to pay for the crushing burden of European domination.'

BEHAR HERALD,  
31st March 1906.

395. The *Indian Empire* writes that plague is daily increasing in Patna and Bankipur, and the inhabitants, in consequence, are in a state of great panic. In Calcutta, also, this scourge is prevalent, and the small-pox epidemic has added to the horrors of the situation. Nowhere is the outlook bright.

INDIAN EMPIRE.  
3rd April 1906.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.  
OF POLICE, L. P.,  
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,  
The 7th April, 1906.

F. C. DALY,  
Persl. Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.



